At the end of 2016, we completed a multi-year 125th Anniversary Capital Campaign that raised $278 million for Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSHL), including much needed endowment funds for research. During this time, we raised an additional $180 million in philanthropic research and education support. Thus, philanthropy continues to propel us forward into exciting new areas of discovery. These funds put into motion forces that allow CSHL to continue to shape the future of life science.

In this magazine, Campaign Committee members share their personal connection to the Lab. Thank you to the committee, led by the indomitable Marilyn Simons. Together with Board Chairman Jamie Nicholls, Marilyn led the effort to secure 60% of campaign contributions from current, honorary and former trustees. Notably, planned gifts from many long-time friends—now Helix Society members—were extremely meaningful and significant to our success.

Read about the most innovative ideas for cancer treatment and diagnosis being pursued by CSHL’s new National Cancer Institute-designated Cancer Center Director David Tavtossian, M.D., Ph.D. Having held that position for 25 years, I asked David to take over so that I can focus on my role as CSHL President and CEO. David is a pioneer in 3D cancer models called organoids that are changing our perspective on this disease.

In the “One Experiment” feature, see in 3D how Dr. Mikala Egeblad envisions a way to stop metastasis in breast cancer patients. And, learn about a serendipitous collaboration between two labs that joined forces to make important advances in the autism spectrum disorder Rett syndrome.

So grab the 3D glasses on the right and explore the next pages. Please take another look at the magazine cover. It serves to remind how CSHL is shaping the future.

“Now more than ever, the inspiring discussions that happen at the Banbury blackboard will be crucial to science worldwide,” says Leshan. “I am thrilled to continue the Banbury tradition while forging bold, new ways to advance science and humanity.”